

We claim:

1. An electrosurgical scissors comprising:  
an end effector (32) comprising a first blade member (34) and a second blade  
5 member (36), the first blade member (34) and the second blade member (36)  
pivottally connected;  
a fluid passage (82) in fluid communication with at least one fluid outlet  
(120);  
at least one of the first blade member (34) and the second blade member (36)  
10 electrically coupled to an electrical connector (68), the electrical connector (68)  
configured to electrically couple the scissors to a radio frequency power source;  
the first blade member (34) having a first blade member exterior surface  
(137) and the second blade member (36) having a second blade member exterior  
surface (139), at least one of the exterior surfaces configured to slide along tissue  
15 while the exterior surface is coupled adjacent the tissue with a fluid expelled from  
the fluid outlet and radio frequency power is provided to the tissue from the scissors;  
and  
whereby the tissue may be sealed from at least one of a flow of bodily fluid  
and air.  
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2. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1 wherein the electrosurgical scissors  
further comprise monopolar electrosurgical scissors.
3. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1 wherein the electrosurgical scissors  
25 further comprise laparoscopic electrosurgical scissors.
4. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1 wherein:  
the first blade member comprises a first blade member distal portion;  
the second blade member comprises a second blade member distal portion;  
30 and  
at least one of the distal portions further comprises a bulbous portion.
5. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1 wherein at least one of the first blade  
member exterior surface and the second blade member exterior surface at least  
35 partially comprises an electrically insulative material.

6. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1 wherein:  
the first blade member further comprises a first blade member shearing  
surface;  
the second blade member further comprises a second blade member shearing  
5 surface;  
the first blade member shearing surface and the second blade member  
shearing surface face one another;  
the first blade member exterior surface is located generally opposite the first  
blade member shearing surface; and  
10 the second blade member exterior surface is located generally opposite the  
second blade member shearing surface.
7. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1 further comprising:  
an elongated shaft;  
15 a lumen located within the confines of the shaft; and  
the lumen providing a portion of the fluid passage.
8. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1 further comprising:  
an elongated hollow shaft; and  
20 the at least one fluid outlet is located within the confines of the shaft.
9. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1 further comprising:  
a push rod;  
a lumen located within the confines of the push rod; and  
25 the lumen providing a portion of the fluid passage.
10. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1 wherein the fluid passage passes  
through a connector member which couples the blade members to a push rod.
- 30 11. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1, wherein the at least one fluid outlet is  
provided by a connector member which couples the blade member and a push rod.
12. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1 wherein the at least one fluid outlet is  
positioned to provide the fluid expelled from the fluid outlet to the end effector.
- 35 13. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1 wherein the fluid outlet is obstructed  
to direct contact by tissue by the blade members.

14. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1 wherein the fluid outlet is provided at a location substantially inaccessible to direct contact with tissue.
15. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1 wherein the blade members are  
5 configured to pass through a cannula for laparoscopic surgery.
16. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1 wherein at least one of the first and second blade members is curved.
- 10 17. The electrosurgical scissors of claim 1 wherein the at least one of the exterior surface is further configured such that the fluid expelled from the fluid outlet forms a localized fluid coupling between a surface of the tissue and the exterior surface when the exterior surface is located adjacent the tissue surface.
- 15 18. A method for treating tissue comprising:  
providing tissue having a tissue surface;  
providing radio frequency power at a power level;  
providing a fluid at a fluid flow rate;  
providing electrosurgical scissors configured to provide the radio frequency  
20 power and the fluid to tissue;  
providing the fluid to the tissue at the tissue surface;  
forming a fluid coupling with the fluid which couples the tissue and the electrosurgical scissors;  
providing the radio frequency power to the tissue;  
25 sealing the tissue against at least one of a flow of bodily fluid and air from the tissue; and  
cutting the sealed tissue with the electrosurgical scissors.